



GP 2131

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PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: A-68982-1/MAK

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: )  
)  
Jonathan C. KAPLAN )  
)  
Serial No.: 09/932,547 )  
)  
Filed: August 17, 2001 )  
)  
For: DISTRIBUTED INFORMATION )  
SYSTEM AND PROTOCOL FOR )  
AFFIXING ELECTRONIC )  
SIGNATURES AND )  
AUTHENTICATING )  
DOCUMENTS )  
)

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Art Unit: 2131

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Signed Christine P. Peters  
Christine P. Peters

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In satisfaction of the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, and in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant wishes to draw the attention of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to the reference cited on the accompanying form PTO-1449. Since a copy of the reference was provided either by the Applicant or the Examiner in the following related U.S. Application; Serial No. 09/642,072, filed August 18, 2000, upon which the instant application relies for its priority date, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), a copy of the references is not enclosed.

Serial No.: 09/932,547  
Filed: August 17, 2001

The reference is not believed to disclose the invention as claimed. Nothing herein shall constitute an admission concerning the contents of the cited reference, nor shall the inclusion of a reference herein be considered an admission that the reference constitutes prior art against the invention claimed in the above-identified application. Submission of the present document shall not be construed as an admission that a search has been made or that better art does not exist.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of a national application, within three months of the date of entry of a national stage, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), and therefor no fee is required. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1300 (Our Order No. A-68982-1/MAK).

Dated: 29 OCT. 2001

Respectfully submitted,

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**Complete if Known**

<b>Application Number</b>	09/932,547
<b>Filing Date</b>	August 17, 2001
<b>First Named Inventor</b>	KAPLAN, Jonathan C.
Group Art Unit	2131
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	A-68982-1/MAK

*(use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet	1	of	1
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## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.

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